

The Local Legends Project  
American Medical Women's Association  
801 North Fairfax Street, Suite 400  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Local Legends Project:

I am pleased to nominate physician-scientist Helen Hobbs, M.D. as a Local Legend of the north Texas community. Dr. Hobbs is Director of the Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development and an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Her research focuses on how abnormalities in the uptake and metabolism of dietary lipids, such as cholesterol, contribute to human disease. Among her research group's accomplishments is the identification of defective genes in patients affected by premature coronary artery disease. As one of her colleagues notes, Dr. Hobbs' abilities and outgoing personality bring patients to "love and trust her."

Dr. Hobbs also oversees the Dallas Heart Study, which involves thousands of Dallas County residents and examines the biological and social foundations of the widening ethnic gap in cardiovascular disease. The goal of this study is to produce unbiased population estimates of biologic and social variables that pinpoint ethnic differences in cardiovascular health at the community level and to tailor treatment for an ethnically diverse population.

As testament to her excellence and contributions in 2004, Dr. Hobbs was elected to the Institute of Medicine, a component of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. Members of the Institute of Medicine shape policies affecting public health and advise the federal government on issues involving medical care, research, and education. As a superb physician-scientist at the forefront of research on the etiology, prevention, and treatment of cardiovascular disease, Dr. Helen H. Hobbs fulfills all of the criteria to be honored as a Local Legend.

Sincerely, Pete Sessions

Member of Congress